

AFV Acquisition Projections for FY 2001 and FY 2002

The purpose of this addendum is to provide additional information, after the fact, concerning the projected reports for FYs 2001/2002. The FY 2001/2002 AFV reports projected AFV acquisition percentages of 50% and 64% respectively, less than the EPO goal of 75%. While USDA realized this, a thoughtful but conservative analysis of the Department alternative fuel program led to the conclusion that meeting the 75% goal would not realistically be achieved until September 30, 2003.

We established a set of formal criteria to guide the decision making process regarding the projections for AFV acquisitions in FYs 2001/2002. We received USDA agency fleet data from previous years to determine specific acquisition patterns and trends. Also, we conducted meetings with individual Agency fleet managers concerning AFV funding issues. In addition, USDA Agencies identified a specific concern regarding the limited availability of the types of AFVs needed (4x2 and 4x4 light duty trucks) to meet USDA critical mission needs.

Although the Department's AFV projections were conservative and the ability to meet the EPO requirement was predicted to be several years out, USDA is pleased to report that the 75% acquisition EPO goal was achieved in FY 2001. This was a result of a marketing strategy which included quarterly meetings, field visits, training for fleet managers, and the use of biodiesel fuel credits. Data for future AFV reports will continue to be systematically developed for the most accurate projections possible. The Department is dedicated to continuously achieving and exceeding the EPO acquisition requirements in future years.